

# DRAFT

## Minutes

### **Rail Advisory Board Meeting Wilson Room Hotel Roanoke Governor's Transportation Conference Pre-Session Roanoke, VA**

**December 10, 2010**

*Note – At the direction of the Board and the Director of DRPT, these summary minutes will reflect Actions, Presentation Items and Informational Requests to the Agency from the Board.*

*Due to technical problems there was no audio recording of this meeting.*

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Trenton Crewe Jr., Chairman	Richard Beadles
Sharon Bulova	Bruno Maestri
Gregory Marston	Steven Powell
James Keen (delayed attendance due to CTB meeting)	

Thelma Drake, Director, DRPT

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Dwight Farmer  
Peter Shudtz

#### **Call to Order**

The Rail Advisory Board Meeting was called to order at 1:14 p.m. by Chairman Crewe.

#### **Adoption of Meeting Agenda**

A joint motion to accept the agenda of the October 14, 2010, and the minutes of the October 14, 2010 meeting was made by Ms. Bulova and seconded by Mr. Maestri. The motion carried without opposition.

#### **Public Comment**

There were no public comments received by e-mail prior to the meeting nor did anyone sign up to speak. The Board meeting books contained a copy of the letter from the Virginia Railway Express Operations Board to Mr. Fred Malak of the Virginia Government Reform Commission. This letter had also been forwarded to the members of the Board by email.

#### **Director's Update**

Thelma Drake, Director of DRPT, gave the Board a general overview of current DRPT projects, including the Amtrak Lynchburg and Richmond trains and status of the planned Norfolk train. Director Drake also presented the Board with the White Paper developed by DRPT on the evolution of the RAB.

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## Adoption of 2011 Rail Advisory Board Meeting Schedule

A motion to confirm, as tentative, April 14, 2011 as the next meeting of the RAB was by Ms. Drake, and seconded by Ms. Bulova. The motion passed without opposition.

## REF Projects Update – NS

Mr. Bill Schafer, Strategic Planning with Norfolk Southern Railway, updated the Board on the major projects funded by the REF program.

## Transportation Outlook for the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress – CSX

Mr. Quintin Kendall, Resident Vice President for CSX gave a presentation on the outlook for railroad funding in the upcoming federal congressional session..

## Delay Analysis of Amtrak's Passenger Rail Services – Amtrak

Mr. Jeff Mann, Assistant Vice President for Policy and Development for Amtrak updated the Board on the current situations with Amtrak service in Virginia and the steps being planned to upgrade their programs.

## Virginia Railway Express Update - VRE

Mr. Dale Zehner, CEO for Virginia Railway Express, made a presentation to the Board on the transfer of VRE rail operations from Amtrak to Keolis Rail Services. He also provided on-time performance and ridership information to the Board as part of his presentation

## Rail Programs Update

Mr. Kevin Page, Chief of Rail Transportation for DRPT, updated the Board on the funding considerations to advance intercity passenger rail service in Virginia.

## Information Items

Mr. Page provided an overview of the informational items provided to the Board in their notebooks. This included the status of the REF revenues and projects as well as Amtrak ridership and on-time performance.

## Other Business of the Board

Mr. Keen gave the Board a brief update of actions at the CTB meeting that had occurred earlier in the day.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m. The next meeting of the Rail Advisory Board will be held on Thursday, April 14, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. in the Board Room (702) at the DMV Headquarters Building in Richmond, Virginia beginning at 10 a.m..